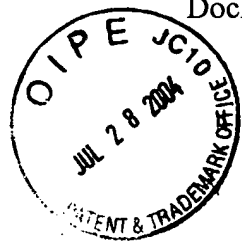


IFW AS/2823

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Docket No.: 50195-257

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Norihiko KIRITANI

Confirmation Number: 7093

Application No.: 09/817,154

Group Art Unit: 2823

Filed: March 27, 2001

Examiner: F. Toledo

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SILICON CARBIDE DEVICE AND
OXIDATION FURNACE

AMENDMENT and REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a response to the final Office Action dated May 4, 2004, in the above-referenced patent application has been amended as set forth below.

Please cancel claim 17 without prejudice or disclaimer. Also, please cancel claims 19 and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer subject to Applicant's right to file a divisional application on the non-elected invention.